

[0106] In a fourth example of a delivery method for providing a MOD item 110 to a user 102, the MOD item 110 can be produced by a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 associated with an order and storage location. For example, the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 may be associated with a kiosk provided for receiving an order 104 from a user 102 for a MOD item 110 and storing the MOD item 110 for subsequent retrieval by the user 102. In some aspects, the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 can be located within a single storage unit and produces a MOD item 110 in the single storage unit. In other aspects, the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 can be located near a cluster of storage units, and when a MOD item 110 is produced by the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108, the MOD item can be automatically transferred the short distance from the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 into an individual storage unit designated for the MOD item 110 until retrieval by the user 102.

[0107] FIG. 15 is a flow chart representing a process 1500 that can be executed by a system 200 to perform a fourth example delivery method. At 1502, the order module 402 can receive an order 104 for a MOD item 110 from a user 102. The order 104 may be received from an order unit associated with one or more 3D manufacturing apparatuses 108 and one or more storage units. Delivery via a storage unit associated with an order unit can be selected as the delivery method.

[0108] At 1510, the manufacturing instructions module 810 can generate manufacturing instructions 107 for producing the MOD item 110 via a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 associated with the order unit. At 1512, the manufacturing instructions module 810 can send the manufacturing instructions 107. At 1514, the delivery module 1002 can send storage instructions. In some aspects, such as when only one 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 is associated with the order unit, the manufacturing instructions 107 can be sent directly to the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108. In some aspects, such as when multiple storage units are associated with a single 3D manufacturing apparatus 108, the storage instructions may include a selection of a storage unit and instructions for moving the MOD item 110 from the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 to the selected storage unit. In some aspects, such as when multiple storage units are associated with an order unit and each storage unit includes a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108, the storage instructions may include a selection of a storage unit and the manufacturing instructions 107 can be sent to the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 associated with the selected storage unit.

[0109] At 1516, the notification module 1004 may notify the user 102 of the status of the MOD item 110, such as the progress in manufacturing the MOD item 110 at the order location, identification of the selected storage unit storing the MOD item 110, access information for retrieving the MOD item 112 from the selected storage unit, the time remaining until the MOD item 110 can be accessed at the selected storage unit, or confirmation of availability of the MOD item 110 at the storage unit.

[0110] In a fifth example of a delivery method for providing a MOD item 110 to a user 102, the MOD item 110 can be produced by a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of a user 102. For example, the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 may be a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 owned by a user 102, such as a 3-D printer in the user's home. As another example, the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 may be a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 controlled by a user 102, such as a rapid pro-

totyping machine at the user's place of work or at a service center renting the use of the machine to the user 102.

[0111] FIG. 16 is a flow chart representing a process 1600 that can be executed by a system 200 to perform a fifth example delivery method. At 1602, the order module 402 can receive an order 104 for a MOD item 110 from a user 102. The order 104 may be received by an electronic marketplace provided by the order module 402. Delivery via a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102 can be selected as the delivery method. At 1608, the order module 402 can receive information about the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102. For example, the information about the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102 may include the make or model of the apparatus, format(s) of manufacturing instructions 107 usable by the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108, manufacturing materials utilized by the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108, size of the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108, and other considerations. At 1610, the manufacturing instructions module 810 can generate manufacturing instructions 107 for producing the MOD item 110 via the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102. The instructions may be based on information received about the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102 at 1608. At 1612, the manufacturing instructions module 810 can provide to the customer manufacturing instructions 107 for producing the MOD item 110 via the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102. In some aspects, the manufacturing instructions 107 can be provided to the customer by sending the manufacturing instructions 107 directly to the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102. In some aspects, the manufacturing instructions 107 are provided to the customer, and further actions of the customer can cause the manufacturing instructions 107 to be sent to the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102. For example, a digital file including 3D manufacturing instructions 107 can be provided to the user 102 such that the user 102 can access the 3D manufacturing instructions 107 later to produce the MOD item 110 on a 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 of the user 102, such as in the user's home or at a service center renting the use of the 3D manufacturing apparatus 108 to the user 102. The manufacturing instructions 107 provided at 1612 may be configured such that the manufacturing instructions 107 can be transferred from the user 102 to a provider of a manufacturing apparatus 108 designated by the user 102.

#### Supplier Features

[0112] Systems discussed herein may provide various methods for interfacing with suppliers 103. The methods utilized for interfacing with suppliers 103 may affect the functions performed by various modules discussed above. The following discussion of examples of methods for interfacing with suppliers 103 may illustrate ways that such methods may affect the functions performed by previously discussed modules.

[0113] Methods can be provided for suppliers 103 or vendors of items to utilize systems of a service provider 101 for distribution of MOD items 110. FIG. 17 is a flow chart representing a process 1700 that can be executed by a system 200 for distributing MOD items 110 on behalf of suppliers 103. At 1702, the supplier interface module 602 can receive information associated with one or more items from a supplier 103. The information associated with the item(s) can include information for obtaining the item(s) as a non-MOD item, such as the location of the item(s) or information for access-